



U.S. Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen

Reports to New Jersey

Visit the Congressman on-line at www.house.gov/frelinghuysen
Or contact him via e-mail at Rodney.Frelinghuysen@mail.house.gov

Census 2000: New Jersey, Everyone Counts!

Dear Friends,

This Spring, residents of New Jersey will receive a Census 2000 questionnaire in the mail. Like many pieces of unsolicited mail, many residents may feel compelled to toss it aside, or simply throw it out. But don't.

The questionnaire many New Jersey families will find in their mailboxes is sent out once every ten years by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Believe it or not, the census is the single most important factor in determining where almost \$200 billion annually in Federal funding will be spent. In fact, few people realize how important the census is for a state like New Jersey, which continues to be ranked 50th in its return on Federal income tax dollars we send to Washington. Simply put, if we don't participate, critical Federal dollars will go elsewhere.

So responding to this census questionnaire will decide if more Federal money will be available to improve educational opportunities for New Jersey's children (don't forget to include all family members – children are often not counted, but should be!), preserve precious open space in our state, fight crime, strengthen our health care system and take care of our veterans, among other important priorities.

Participating is a civic duty, and a practical, tangible necessity. Every New Jersey resident who has ever used a train or bus, or driven our highways should cooperate so that future Federal dollars are available to maintain roads and our mass transportation system, and develop effective strategies to combat suburban sprawl. Every person who has ever been treated in a hospital, received housing assistance, or utilized employment services has a vested interest in seeing that New Jersey gets its fair share of the Federal budget.

If you are like me, and tired of being ranked 50th in the Federal return on your income tax dollars, let's turn the tables. Let's lead the nation in participating in Census 2000 and work together to ensure New Jersey gets a fair return on the tax dollars we send to Washington.

Remember New Jersey, for Census 2000 everyone counts, but it is our job to make sure everyone is counted!

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen

**United States
Census
2000**

<http://www.census.gov>



Second Session of the 106th Congress Off To A Quick Start!

ECONOMY

Eliminating the Marriage Tax

One of the great ironies of our democracy is that we are opposed to discrimination based on race, creed, age and marital status, and yet the Federal government forces working couples to pay higher taxes simply because they are married. And worse yet, the Marriage Penalty Tax impacts the second wage earner in a family – usually a woman – so, she is taxed at a much higher rate just because she is married! Is this fair? Of course not.

This flaw in our tax code is wrong and Congress has acted to right that wrong. On February 10, 2000, Congress voted to provide marriage penalty tax relief to 50 million working Americans, allowing them to keep more of their own hard-earned money to spend on their families and their dreams.

Here in the 11th Congressional District, 72,605 married couples are penalized by the marriage tax. Almost a million married couples are impacted across New Jersey.

The House bill provides \$180 billion in marriage penalty tax relief to married Americans over the next ten years.

Penalizing working couples simply because they are married is inexcusable. In this era of budget revenue surpluses, the repeal of the marriage penalty tax is reasonable, and long overdue!

SOCIAL SECURITY

Repealing the Earnings Limit

Over 800,000 older men and women today lose part or all of their Social Security benefits just because they continue to work! The earnings limit cuts or eliminates Social Security benefits for working older Americans whose earnings exceed a certain amount. In 2000, older workers between ages 65-69 lose \$1 in their Social Security benefits for every \$3 in earnings over the \$17,000 limit. Without action, this number will increase over time as the massive baby boom generation reaches retirement age.

When Social Security was created during the Great Depression, the earnings limit was put in place to encourage older workers to leave the work force so jobs would become available for younger people. While the limit has been adjusted to reflect a changing workforce, it has never been eliminated. On March 1, 2000, we in Congress passed H.R. 5, the "Senior Citizens Freedom to Work Act of 2000." This act repeals the Social Security earnings penalty and keeps experienced and dedicated, older citizens working!

Watch for a Town Meeting in Your Community!

The Congressman recently met residents at town meetings in **Mine Hill, Denville and Dover**. Look for notices in your local newspapers for dates, times and locations for more town meetings. Come out and meet the Congressman, and don't forget to bring your questions and concerns!

Visit the Congressman on-line at www.house.gov/frelinghuysen

Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen's Agenda for the Second Session, 106th Congress



Social Security: Congress has already acted to prevent the Clinton Administration from spending the Social Security Trust Fund to pay for other government spending. We will continue to preserve and protect Social Security for current and future retirees.



Medicare: Congress has already acted to keep Medicare solvent through at least 2015, but more needs to be done! We will guarantee that Medicare is preserved for current and future retirees and we will modernize Medicare to reflect today's health care system, such as the need to help many older Americans pay for their prescription drugs.



National Debt: The great untold story in Washington is that Congress has already paid down our national debt by more than \$130 billion, and this year, we will make another payment of at least the same amount! This will assure a brighter future for our children.



Economy: Congress will keep the economy strong by continuing our fiscally conservative policy of balancing the budget, paying down the national debt and providing sensible tax relief to hard working Americans, such as the elimination of the Marriage Penalty Tax, ending the death tax, and cutting capital gains taxes.



Education: Congress will continue to take Washington bureaucrats out of the equation and return decisions about our children's education to the people who know best – their teachers, school administrators and parents. It's also time for the Administration to obey Federal laws to provide 40 percent of the funding for the costs of special education.



Health: As co-sponsor of the Patient Bill of Rights, ensure that this legislation to put doctors and patients back in charge of health care becomes the law of the land. Within the Balanced Budget, continue to work to increase the research budget for the National Institutes of Health to fight diseases and other illnesses affecting children and adults.



National Security: As a member of the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, work to strengthen our national defense by ensuring adequate funding for our men and women in uniform.



Technology: America must continue to invest in the research and development of new technologies to ensure our nation leads the global marketplace in the 21st Century. And with the explosion of "e-commerce," Americans must be assured that their privacy is protected, especially children, while using the Internet.



Environment: In the most densely populated state in the nation, protecting New Jersey's environment remains a critical priority. Open space preservation, clean up of toxic waste and reform of the EPA's Superfund program, flood control, and shore protection, among others, are the issues for which the Congressman is fighting.



Campaign Finance Reform: Yet again, co-sponsor and pass the Shays-Meehan Campaign Finance Reform bill to restore America's faith in the political process.



Committee work: As New Jersey's only member of the House Appropriations Committee, the Congressman fights for New Jersey's priorities like keeping our Port Newark open for business, Picatinny Arsenal, expanding our national parks and wildlife refuges, veterans medical care, funding to combat aircraft noise and construction of a mass transit system to serve all of our state's residents.



The Congressman meets with students after discussing his role as a Member of Congress.

SCHOOL NEWS BRIEFS

The Congressman recently visited students at **Boonton H.S., Chatham H.S., Morris Hills H.S. in Rockaway Borough, Frelinghuysen Middle School, Parsippany-Hills H.S., Roxbury H.S., Long Valley Middle School in Washington Twp., St. Anthony of Padua School in Butler, James Caldwell H.S. in Caldwell, William Annin Middle School in Basking Ridge, Hopatcong H.S., Lenape Valley H.S. in Stanhope, and Morristown High School.**

He also visited **Alfred Vail School in Morristown, Walter T. Bergen Middle School in Bloomingdale, Grover Cleveland Middle School in Caldwell, Bridgewater-Raritan Middle School and Sparta Middle School** to talk about Census 2000.

Consumer Protection Legislation INTERNET PRIVACY

The Congressman has introduced a bill to protect the privacy of consumers who use the Internet. H.R. 3560 would require commercial Web sites to notify visitors if any personal information is being collected while they are on the site and give consumers the ability to "opt out" of having that personal information used or disseminated by the Web operator.

"With the explosion of E-commerce in America, people are buying everything from stocks to furniture over the Internet. However, in order for this exciting sector of our economy to reach its true potential, we must ensure that consumer privacy is protected. The bottom line is that the American public has the right to know who is collecting information about them, and how that information is being used," the Congressman said.

H.R. 3560 would protect Internet consumers by ensuring they are aware of when a Web operator is collecting personal information about them, and further providing a process for consumers to "opt out" of allowing companies to use their personal information for marketing or other practices. Finally, Frelinghuysen's bill also directs the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to create incentives for Web operators to self-regulate and implement appropriate consumer protections on their own.

KNOW YOUR CALLER ACT

The Congressman's "Know Your Caller Act" will prohibit telemarketers from interfering with the caller identification service of any person to whom a telephone solicitation is made. This will provide consumers with contact information for these companies, allowing them the opportunity to call the telemarketer back to demand that they not be called again!

FRUSTRATED WITH INCREASING OIL PRICES?

The escalating cost of fuel oil and diesel has rightly gotten people angry. The White House has been silent and the Department of Energy asleep at the switch.

To date, neither the President nor Energy Secretary Bill Richardson has explained to the American people why costs have jumped so high. Their action to release funds from the Low Income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP) is, of course, supported by all members of Congress and our constituents. But the Clinton Administration needs to do more.

- 1) Why not release oil from the National Strategic Petroleum Reserve to drive prices down?
- 2) Why not remind our foreign "allies" that American lives were put on the line to protect their regimes and a great portion of the world's oil supply?
- 3) Explain what Attorney General Janet Reno is doing to investigate alleged price gouging?

Congress has asked these questions repeatedly and has yet to receive answers!

All New Jerseyans who are fed up with the Administration's lack of serious attention to this fuel crisis should write or e-mail Secretary Richardson and voice your concerns. He can be reached at:

The Honorable Bill Richardson, Secretary, Department of Energy
 1000 Independence Avenue, SW
 Washington, DC 20585
the.secretary@hq.doe.gov

VETERANS

Fighting for New Jersey's Veterans

For five years, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has been taking funds away from New Jersey Veterans! Congressman Frelinghuysen has led the fight to get those dollars back to help meet the health care needs of our men and women who served.

The VA finally agreed to give back \$63 million, in addition to the \$22 million we got back last year. More still needs to be done and the Congressman will continue to lead the charge.

"New Jersey's veterans have waited too long for this money. I will make sure that the money is spent on providing access and delivering health care to our state's veterans. While this money won't solve all of the VA's problems in New Jersey, it is an important first step toward improving the health care our veterans receive," the Congressman added.

Frelinghuysen, a veteran himself, was credited with ushering through Congress the largest single year increase for veterans medical care last Fall. The VA, in its fiscal year 2000 budget received \$19 billion for veterans' medical care, including his increase of \$1.7 billion.

The Congressman requested additional funds from the VA after learning VA Secretary Togo West has a discretionary fund to assist VA systems across the nation on an as-needed, individual basis.

VETERANS CLINIC TO OPEN IN MORRIS COUNTY

The Congressman announced another major victory for our veterans. After a three-year battle to open an outpatient medical clinic for veterans in the 11th Congressional District, the Congressman has succeeded. "I am very pleased to announce that the Department of Veterans Affairs has finally recognized the need for an outpatient clinic to better serve the veterans of Morris County and our surrounding areas," he said.

According to the VA, the clinic will open this year.

AIR NOISE

Frelinghuysen Urges FAA to Test Ocean Routing

The Congressman recently wrote the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to once again urge a live test of ocean routing on aircraft leaving Newark International Airport. Joined by some of his New Jersey colleagues, they wrote FAA administrator Jane Garvey:

"We are sure you are aware of the impact aircraft noise has on our constituents in northern New Jersey, and any relief that can be provided in the interim would be welcomed," they wrote. The letter continued, "We have been alerted to a proposal which would divert Kennedy [International Airport] arrivals east of their current position to enable outgoing, Florida bound Newark flights to depart over the ocean. We join the Governor in asking you to conduct a live test of this proposed departure route."

The Congressman continues to support "ocean-routing" as a means to reduce aircraft noise over northern New Jersey neighborhoods. He has also secured \$6.6 million for the FAA this fiscal year to expedite the redesign of the airspace over the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan area, which according to the FAA, is the only way to alleviate the aircraft noise problem in New Jersey.

ENVIRONMENT

11th District Update

Save New Jersey's Drinking Water, Stop the Use of MTBE!

MTBE (methyl tertiary-butyl ether) is a gasoline additive that is supposed to help to make air cleaner, but what it is really doing is contaminating our nation's drinking water!

The Congressman is a co-sponsor of H.R. 1367, a bill to prohibit the use of MTBE as a fuel additive.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is allowed by the Clean Air Act to ban pollutants that present a substantial danger to public health or welfare but in this case, the EPA is not!

Please contact EPA officials and express your views! You may reach EPA Administrator Carol Browner at:

The Honorable Carol M. Browner
 Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 401 M Street, S.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20460
public-access@epamail.epa.gov

PROTECTING NEW JERSEY'S OPEN SPACE

Reflecting New Jersey's priority to preserve and protect vanishing open space, Congressman Frelinghuysen continues to strengthen the Federal government's role in protecting undeveloped land.

As a co-sponsor of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA), he remains one of the staunchest advocates in Congress for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and making that funding a permanent part of the Federal budget.

He also helped secure recent Federal funding through the Department of Interior's Forest Legacy program for Wildcat Ridge in Rockaway Township and for Sterling Forest. In the first session of the 106th Congress, the Congressman succeeded in securing Land and Water Conservation Funds for the expansion of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.

CLEANING UP TOXIC WASTE

The Congressman is gearing up for his annual tour of the 11th Congressional District's Superfund sites. He is also working to reform the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund program so that more money is spent on actual, physical clean up of toxic waste and less is spent on lawsuits and attorney fees.



Social Security and Medicare were discussed at a meeting with residents of Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge.

Visit the Congressman on-line at www.house.gov/frelinghuysen

The Congressman Reaches Out to Small Businesses Hosts The "8th Government Procurement Expo"

'Plugging In' to Government Contracts," will be held on June 9, 2000 at Picatinny Arsenal from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

The Expo is designed to provide an opportunity for small, women-owned, and socially disadvantaged businesses to learn how to contract and/or subcontract with local, state and Federal government agencies and major prime contractors. Exhibitors will be from these agencies as well as from service providers such as the U.S. Small Business Administration and the NJ Small Business Development Center.

Small businesses will be able to explore government procurement through direct marketing, exchange of information, workshop attendance and informal networking. Workshop topics will include: SBA Certification -- Small Disadvantaged Business, HUBZones, Women's Dollars and Sense, Central Contractor Registration, Web-site Marketing, How to Get Research Dollars and Other Funding, and Electronic Procurement.

Doing Business with the Government

☒ Please send me more information about the Congressman's "8th Government Procurement Expo: 'Plugging In' to Government Contracts"

Name: _____

Address: _____

Business: _____

E-mail: _____

Send coupon to Congressman Frelinghuysen's Office at:
30 Schuyler Place, 2nd Floor, Morristown, NJ 07960



Morristown H.S. Principal Richard Garibell accepts a souvenir from the Congressman and Astronaut Rick Husband after they addressed students on NASA's space program.

Space Shuttle Astronaut Lands In Morris County

Recently, the Congressman invited NASA Astronaut and Space Shuttle *Discovery* veteran Rick Husband to visit New Jersey. On his first visit to the Garden State, Astronaut Husband dazzled students and others he met with his tale of piloting the *Discovery* on its first docking in outerspace with the International Space Station last summer.

The Astronaut toured the district with the Congressman and made stops at Morristown High School, the Parsippany Rotary Club, the County College of Morris in Randolph, and Marotta Scientific Controls in Montville. Astronaut Husband rounded out the day with an evening meeting at Montville H.S. with the Congressman's Youth Advisory Council and invited science teachers from area high schools.

"Astronaut Husband is a great role model for our young people and I am grateful that he took the time away from his family in Houston to spend the day in New Jersey thrilling students and all who met him with his experiences aboard Space Shuttle *Discovery*," said the Congressman.

Around New Jersey

The Congressman continues to meet with constituents and speak to groups across the 11th Congressional District. In recent weeks he has met with and spoken to the Butler/Kinnelon Area Rotary, the Morris County Freeholders on Census 2000, to Baldwin Oaks residents at a Town Meeting in Parsippany, at the Greater Somerset Hills Business and Professional Women meeting, students at the Sussex County Technical School in Sparta, the West Essex Woman's Club in Caldwell, to the Parsippany Kiwanis Club, to members of the First Reformed Church in Lincoln Park, to the Florham Park Rotary, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Breakfast in Morristown, to the Morris County Employers Legislative Committee in Mt. Lakes, to the Tri-Boro Rotary in Riverdale, to families of the 11th Congressional District nominees to America's military academies at the Parsippany Library, employees of the Sussex County U.S. Census Field Office, with his Picatinny Working Group in Rockaway Township, with his Veterans Working Group in Morristown, to the Roxbury Rotary, to participants at the Employment Horizons kick-off in Morristown, employees at Cendant corporate headquarters in Parsippany and to residents at a Fellowship Village Town Meeting in Basking Ridge.

INTERNS IN WASHINGTON AND NJ

Recent Interns in the Congressman's Offices include Carolyn Kappen of Dover, Deidre Russo of Chatham, Jason Pozner of Livingston, Kathleen Tegler of Bridgewater, Maggie Brandt of Convent Station, Emily Merkt of Brookside and John Shea of Mountain Lakes.

THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK!!!

If you are interested in being an intern, please contact my Washington Office at (202) 225-5034.

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